

LOCAL FLORA NOTES

Weeds of New York

JOSEPH MONACHINO

The following are, with few exceptions, represented by specimens deposited in the Local Flora Herbarium of the New York Botanical Garden:

- Aristida oligantha* Michx. Sheepshead Bay, Brooklyn. Sept. Not as abundant as
- Aristida tuberculosa* Nutt. Richmond Valley, Staten Island, where lawns were covered with this long awned grass, reminiscent of its prolificness in southern New Jersey along the tracks of the N. J. Central R. R. Aug.
- Arthraxon hispidus* var. *cryptatherus* (Hack.) Honda. Near the propagating house, N. Y. Botanical Garden, Bronx. Oct. Hitchcock, Manual of the Grasses of the U. S., page 725. Annual, but self-seeding. Leaves like a common *Panicum*, inflorescence like a *Digitaria*, and related to neither, but to *Andropogon*, which it does not resemble, by organs that are usually missing (secondary spikelet and its pedicel)!
- Bromus inermis* Leyss. A few specimens in Jamaica, Queens; but seen in great quantities further east on Long Island out of the city limits. July.
- Calamagrostis epigios* (L.) Roth. First collected Aug. 18, 1936, near Maspeth, Queens. First seen at several stations in Astoria e.g. Vernon Blvd. and Sanford St. In every case as a weed in dense showy colonies. Hitchcock, page 319.
- Cenchrus tribuloides* L. Plum Island, Marine Park, Brooklyn. Nov. Together with *Cenchrus pauciflorus* Benth. As prosperous as in the Atlantic Highlands or Staten Island, thus completing the arc of distribution on the land sides of the Lower Bay.
- Corynephorus canescens* (L.) Beauv. South Jamaica. July. Hitchcock, page 294. Still doing fine; in an adventurous mood, it has crossed Cross Bay Blvd.
- Hordeum jubatum* L. Occasionally throughout, e.g. Sheepshead Bay, Canarsie, Brooklyn; Cornell Neck, Bronx. June.
- Panicum scoparium* Lam. South of reservoir, Central Park; Conselyea Pond, Jamaica. July. Observed for a half dozen years at first locality. The velvet panic grass is easily distinguished from other *Panicums* by its pubescence which is velvety as in *Holcus lanatus*.
- Setaria ambigua* Guss. Queens, e.g. Vernon Blvd. and 46th Ave., Long Island City. Manhattan, in the cracks of pavements near sides of buildings. Sept. Hitchcock, page 699, as var. of *S. verticellata*.
- Setaria italica* (L.) Beauv. Sporadically throughout the city, sometimes in small colonies. Aug.
- Cyperus Schœvinitzii* Torr. Cross Bay Blvd., across Jamaica Bay, Queens. Also at Plum Island, Brooklyn. June.

- Salix longifolia* Muhl. Canarsie and Barren Island, Brooklyn. Generally along southern coast of Long Island. June.
- Cannabis sativa* L. Throughout, including back yards. June.
- Parictaria pennsylvanica* Muhl. Near Westchester Creek, Bronx. Sept.
- Atriplex rosca* L. Coney Island, Brooklyn; Astoria, Queens. Aug.
- Bassia hyssopifolia* (Pall.) Kuntze. Near juncture of Flushing Bay and Flushing Rv., Corona, L. Is., also at Bowery Bay, Astoria; near Newton Creek, Queens. Sept. $\frac{1}{2}$ ' to 4' high, rounded and compact, stem becoming shining red. Like a great *Dondia*, but fruiting calyx with a ring of peculiar incurved horns.
- Cycloloma atriplicifolium* (Spreng.) Coult. Southern L. Is., Sheepshead Bay, Barren Island, Canarsie, South Jamaica. Also in Corona, Queens. June.
- Allionia nyctaginea* Michx. Common in Long Island City and Astoria, western Queens. July.
- Silene Czerci* Baumg. Canarsie, Brooklyn. June. Somewhat like a huge *Silene latifolia*. Besides specimens, a seed collection at N. Y. B. G.
- Lepidium latifolium* L. Flushing, near Flushing Bay. June. Showy, 3' to 5' tall, flowers in corymbose panicle, white, fragrant like sweet alyssum. More corymbose than typical European specimens.
- Rapistrum rugosum* (L.) All. Coney Island. July.
- Vicia villosa* Roth. Several stations in Bronx. Aug.
- Conium maculatum* L. Flushing. June.
- Tribulus terrestris* L. Yard at 11th Ave. & 41st St., Manhattan. July. Certain to be shortly doomed.
- Tithymalus Esula* (L.) Hill. Pelham Bay Parkway entrance to Bronx Dale, Bronx Park. May. Seen for several years but never in fruit.
- Epilobium hirsutum* L. Flushing and Bronx. Aug.
- Heracleum spondylium* L. Near north entrance to N. Y. Bot. Garden, Bronx. July. Has been observed to flourish for several years. Quite distinct in most characters from *H. lanatum* Michx; which is the common species in the Park. Typical leaves 5 lobed.
- Verbena bracteata* Lag. & Rodr. Barren Island, Brooklyn. Aug.
- Verbena stricta* Vent. Flushing. July.
- Ballota nigra* L. Cornell Neck, Bronx. July.
- Solanum villosum* Mill. Flushing. Sept. Replaced *S. nigrum*.
- Plantago arcnaria* W.&K. Quite common throughout, more so than *P. aristata* Michx. July.
- Sesamum indicum* L. Corona, L. Is. Oct. Growing in cindery soil with aspects of a plantation. Seeds ripe.
- Galium erectum* Huds. Near Newton Creek, Greenpoint, Brooklyn. Sept.
- Triosteum perfoliatum* L. Western Pelham Bay Park and VanCortlandt Park; Bronx; not as profuse as on Snake Hill, Hudson Co., New Jersey. July.
- Iva xanthiifolia* Nutt. (*Cylachaena xanthiifolia* Fresen.) Queens, e.g. Vernon Blvd. & 34th Ave. With prolific pollen. Sept.
- Artemisia annua* L. Many localities in Queens. Summer.

- Boltonia asteroides* (L.) L'Her. Near Westchester Creek, Bronx. Sept.
Boltonia latisquama A. Gray. New York Bot. Garden. Autumn.
Carduus nutans L. Near Flushing Bay, Flushing; in swampy grounds near
 73 Ave. & Queens Blvd., Queens: a colony with suberect heads. July.
Coreopsis lanceolata L. Queens, a frequent escape. June.
Guizotia abyssinica Cass. Corona, Queens. Oct. With the aspects of a
 robust *Bidens cernua*.
Helianthus hybrid No. 194. Corona. Sept. Resembles *H. ambiguus*
 (A. Gray) Britton but stem smooth above. Associates: *H. giganteus* L.,
H. divaricatus L., *H. strumosus* L.
Helianthus hybrid No. 196. With No. 194 and similar but upper leaves
 alternate.
Liatris scariosa Willd. Corona. Sept. In south Jamaica, with *L. spicata*
 Willd. and an intermediate hybrid.
Matricaria matricarioides (Less.) Porter. Several southern districts in
 Brooklyn and Queens. June.
Lactuca pulchella (Pursh) DC. Flushing. July. Growing with *Lepidium*
latifolium L. Aspects of chickory.
Hieracium florentinum All. Hardly less common than *H. pratense*. Aug.

NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN,
 BRONX, N. Y.

Back-tracking New Jersey Plants

JOHN A. SMALL

On a field trip last fall (September 30, 1939) under the guidance of Dr. Meredith Johnson, New Jersey State Geologist, a search was made for fossil plants in the limonitic sandstone of the Pensauken formation in East Brunswick Township. This locality, the only one reported of its kind, was discovered by Dr. Alfred Hawkins some ten years ago. It is a very small area. A good number of imprints were found but they showed only fragments of leaves. The original collection had removed the best of the exposed material. None of us were sufficiently trained paleobotanists to name the species found. The earlier collections were studied by Dr. Edward W. Berry and published with Dr. Hawkins as "Flora of the Pensauken Formation in New Jersey" in the Bulletin of the Geological Society of America, vol. 46, 1935. Eleven species were reported: *Onoclea sensibilis*, *Salix humilis*, *Castanea*

dentata, *Platanus occidentalis*, *Magnolia virginiana*, *Cebatha carolina*, *Philadelphus inodorus*, *Persea borbonia*, *Sassafras officinale*, *Gaylussacia dumosa*, and *Viburnum alnifolium*. All of these plants are still thriving species although three of them no longer range this far north. But the Pensauken rocks were laid down during an interglacial period of the Pleistocene, or perhaps before the Jerseyan glaciation.

BOOK REVIEWS

Basic Course in Botany*

J. W. THOMSON, JR.

The aim of this new addition to the ever-increasing list of textbooks in general introductory botany is an attempt "to emphasize the essentials of science, and especially the broad, biological point of view, more consciously and persistently than is done in similar works." To achieve this aim, the first two chapters are devoted to "the point of view" and "biological fundamentals," and throughout the book an introduction to each topic stresses generalizations which are then discussed in greater detail.

In general content the new text is similar to previous texts. After a consideration of plant cells and their activities, the tissues and organs of the plant; roots, stems, leaves, flowers, fruits and seeds are taken up. The activities of the organs are discussed in the same chapters as the structures. Following the chapters upon anatomy and physiology, the plant kingdom is well covered in eight chapters. The chapters "plants and their environment" and "plant communities and vegetation regions" give, as would be expected from Dr. Pool, a better consideration of plant ecology than many other general texts. These chapters are limited to North American vegetation. Pathology and heredity and evolution are also given chapters.

While some of the diagrams intended to simplify general principles seem unnecessarily complicated, and some of the photographs

* Basic Course in Botany. Raymond J. Pool. v + 654 pages. Ginn and Co. 1940. \$3.75.